years. It has been established only in comparatively recent years, however, that the other activities of the leaf are also of primary importance. The leaf is the receptive organ for the length of day flowering (photoperidism) and the organ of synthesis for Thiamine (B-1), Pyridoxine (b-6) and other organic materials essential for growth. Auxin, a hormone, manufactured by the plant is also essential for rooting. It is generally conceded that plants with low auxin count are hard to root or do not root at all.

GRAFTING

Terms: Stock and Scion.

1. Stock is the plant on which the material is to be grafted.
2. Scion is the wood that is grafted to the stock.

Twigs that have made a growth of from one to two feet in the last season and are about lead pencil size furnish the best wood for scions.

Union between stock and scion is effected through the formation of callus by both stock and scion. When these meet (in at least two places) they fuse---the whole process being no more than a wound healing. Union proceeds more rapidly if the wounded areas are protected against drying out and excessive moisture, also.

BUDDING

Budding is accomplished by cutting one "bud eye" from the material to be propogated and secured under

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SPECIALIZING IN HIBISCUS

a slit in the epidermis of the stock plant. This method is most generally used on citrus and grapes. In the case of Hibiscus this method is most generally used only when there is a very limited amount of scion material or for rare woods.

AIR LAYERING

Air layering was first described by Coto (234-149 B.C.) in his work "De Re Rustica". Many plants air layer very readily and this is a very desirable method of obtaining a large size plant in a relatively short time. The twig is ringed in two places (usually about 1½ times the diameter of the twig) and scraped. A rooting hormone may be lightly dusted on the cut area but this is not essential. The wound is then wrapped with a small ball of moist spaghnum moss and covered with an outer covering of plastic or aluminum foil which is tied above and below the ball of moss. Plastic seems to be the most desirable material since it does not tear as easily as foil and when the plant is ready the roots inside are clearly visible.

SEEDS

Many plants are propogated by means of seeds. In the case of Hibiscus, which do not come true from seed, pollenizing will produce a hybrid. In the realm of Hibiscus propogation this is the most fascinating of all. It is truly wonderful to watch young seedlings grow and develop and finally all of the

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